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3 December 1981

COMMENT ON PAPER ON US CIVIL DEFENSE
TO BE DISCUSSED AT 3 DECEMBER NSC MEETING

1. This paper discusses the Civil Defense problem and presents three options beyond the present program which is essentially guided by PD 41 (this PD endorsed evacuation as the preferred approach to population protection, plus "some increase" in the number of survivors).

2. The three options:

Option 1 - Augment present program with new research planning and development and accelerate evacuation proposals. Defer decisions on population and industry shelter, but conduct research to this end.

Option 2 - Survive 80% of the population by 1987 and make policy decision on industrial protection by 1984.
(Requires new NSDD-draft is Tab E.)

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Option 3 - Decide now to protect population and industry by 1987. (Requires new NSDD-draft is Tab G.)

3. The paper sums up the pros and cons of each policy and the problems inherent in getting Congressional and public support for any program.

4. It reviews the risks involved in doing nothing additional beyond the present program--risks to the country and to the strategic deterrence policy.

5. Options 2 and 3 are described as equal in cost.

6. FEMA would administer any Civil Defense program and would budget for all aspects. A Civil Defense Working Group of the new Emergency Mobilization Preparedness Board would coordinate the program throughout the government.

7. Known Agency Positions

According to John Dickey of FEMA, DOD and FEMA are very close on this issue. DOD and FEMA prefer Option 3, but would settle for Option 2.

- Option 3 would mean a commitment to spend \$7 Billion over 5 years.
- Under Option 2, which allows another decision point in FY 84 on industrial protection, the program might

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be stretched out over 7 years.

- OMB is extremely negative to anything beyond a 3% real growth in the current Civil Defense budget.

8. General Guiffrida will make the presentation for FEMA. He will remind attendees of the President's 2 October commitment to improved Civil Defense. What FEMA and DOD really want is a fundamental commitment. DOD is most concerned about industrial protection.

9. We would have to give considerably more study to this before we could express a confident opinion on the policy options. We are skeptical about FEMA's ability to run such a large and comprehensive program. Although FEMA has vigorous new leadership in Generals Guiffrida and Lewis, it remains a small (2,500-person), bureaucratically-weak organization.

10. A January 1981 NFAC study is cited (page 2 of the paper) as supporting the conclusion that the Soviets could achieve a high survival rate--given warning.

11. DIA is drafting for the Intelligence Community a new study on Civil Defense which will be published next year.

12. I am attaching a report from a NIEPS member on the first exploratory meeting of the Civil Defense Working Group which apparently is to coordinate the whole program.



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